

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CARACA 07980 132325Z

64

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SPC-01 NSC-10 NSCE-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 PM-03 L-02 MC-02 IGA-01

AID-10 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /067 W

----- 088044

R 132158Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1207

S E C R E T CARACAS 7980

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS

SUBJECT: CHILEAN REQUEST FOR MILITARY ITEMS

1. RAUL SAEZ, CHILEAN CABINET MINISTER UNDER PRESIDENT FREI AND RESIDENT IN CARACAS IN RECENT YEARS, CALLED ON ME AT HIS URGENT REQUEST AFTERNOON SEPTEMBER 13 TO RELATE THE FOLLOWING STORY.
2. ON SEPTEMBER 12 WIFE AND TWO DAUGHTERS OF COL. RENE ARRIAGADA, CHIEF OF STAFF OF CHILEAN AIR FORCE BASE AT LOS CERRILLOS, ARRIVED IN CARACAS TO STAY WITH SAEZ. THEY HAD ARRIVED IN PANAMA FROM SANTIAGO ON A CHILEAN MILITARY AIRCRAFT SEPTEMBER 8. ARRIAGADA IS A CLOSE PERSONAL FRIEND OF SAEZ.
3. MRS. ARRIAGADA DELIVERED TO SAEZ A LIST OF MILITARY ITEMS WHICH SAEZ WAS GIVEN TO UNDERSTAND WERE URGENTLY NEEDED BY THE CHILEAN AIR FORCE. SAEZ SAID THAT HE HAD RECEIVED CRYPTIC INDICATIONS FROM ARRIAGADA VIA A TELEPHONE CALL FROM ARRIAGADA TO SAEZ IN BOSTON, DURING A RECENT VISIT THERE, AND FROM A HAND-WRITTEN NOTE CONTAINING EQUALLY INDIRECT AND CRYPTIC LANGUAGE BROUGHT BY MRS. ARRIAGADA, THAT HE WAS CHARGED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY OF SEEKING THE MATERIAL FROM USG.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 CARACA 07980 132325Z

4. SAEZ SAID THAT ARRIAGADA PASSED TO HIM A RECONFIRMATION OF

THE REQUEST IN A MESSAGE SENT LATE SEPTEMBER 12, APPARENTLY VIA CHILEAN AIR FORCE - VENEZUELAN AIR FORCE RADIO HOOK-UP.

5. SAEZ SAID HE COULD THINK OF NO OTHER COURSE OF ACTION THAN TO INFORM THE EMBASSY OF THE FOREGOING. HE HOPED THAT HE COULD BE INFORMED WHETHER HIS ROLE AS AN INTERMEDIARY IN THIS MATTER COULD SERVE ANY PURPOSE. IF NOT, HE WANTED NO FURTHER INVOLVEMENT. IF IT COULD SERVE SOME PURPOSE, HE WOULD WANT, AS A CHILEAN PATRIOT, TO DO WHAT HE COULD FOR THE CHILEAN ARMED FORCES AND HIS COUNTRY.

6. SAEZ LEFT A COPY OF THE LIST OF MATERIAL DESIRED, WHICH WE WILL POUCH TO ARA/BC. IT INCLUDES ITEMS SUCH AS 2000 HELMETS, 500 BULLET PROOF VESTS, 2000 GAS MASKS, 1000 TEAR GAS SHELLS, 1000 TEAR GAS GRENADES, 5000 COLT M-15 RIFLES WITH 300,000 ROUNDS, TWENTY 7.62 CALIBER MINIGUN MACHINE GUNS WITH 1,500,000 ROUNDS, 1500 SLEEPING BAGS, 3000 CANTEENS, 20,000 FATIGUE UNIFORMS AND CAPS, 9000 PARKAS, 10,000 PAIRS OF PARACHUTE BOOTS, 20,000 SWEATERS, 20,000 T-SHIRTS AND VARIOUS SPECIFIED MODELS OF COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT.

7. SAEZ COULD GIVE NO EXPLANATION WHY COL. ARRIAGADA WAS SEEKING TO UTILIZE HIM FOR MILITARY PROCUREMENT PURPOSES, ESPECIALLY WITH SUCH FRAGMENTARY AND CONFUSING INSTRUCTIONS. HE DID SAY, HOWEVER, THAT ARRIAGADA, AS FAR BACK AS JUNE, DURING A VISIT IN CARACAS, HAD SPOKEN OPENLY TO SAEZ ABOUT DISCONTENT IN THE CHILEAN MILITARY AND THE POSSIBILITY OF EVENTUAL ACTION. SAEZ HAD SAID HE WOULD DO WHAT HE COULD FOR HIS COUNTRY IF NEED AROSE.

8. I TOLD SAEZ I WOULD PASS HIS STORY TO THE DEPARTMENT BUT WITHOUT ANY FURTHER COMMITMENT. IF THE DEPARTMENT BELIEVES THAT SAEZ SHOULD BE TOLD TO FORGET IT, I WILL BE GLAD TO SO INFORM HIM.
FISHER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973CARACA07980
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS FISHER
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: CARACAS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730938/aaaabbon.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25-Jan-2002 by thigpegh>; APPROVED <14 FEB 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CHILEAN REQUEST FOR MILITARY ITEMS
TAGS: MASS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005